United Nations A/S-30/2

General Assembly

Distr.: General
11 April 2016

Original: English

Thirtieth special session
Item 6 of the provisional agenda*
Organization of the session and adoption of the agenda

Letter dated 8 April 2016 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly

1. At present, six Member States are in arrears under the terms of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations, which states:

> A Member of the United Nations which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Organization shall have no vote in the General Assembly if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two full years. The General Assembly may, nevertheless, permit such a Member to vote if it is satisfied that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the Member.

2. The minimum payments necessary to reduce the amounts owed by those Member States on their contributions so that they remain below the gross amount assessed for the preceding two full years (2014 and 2015) are as follows:

Member State	*Minimum payment (United States dollars)*
Comoros[a]	873 901
Guinea-Bissau[a]	409 573
Libya	1 369 638
Sao Tome and Principe[a]	797 519
Somalia[a]	1 321 917
Yemen[a]	439 224

[a] In its resolution 70/2, the General Assembly decided that the Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe, Somalia and Yemen would be permitted to vote in the Assembly until the end of its seventieth session.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

* A/S-30/1.

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United Nations A/S-30/3

General Assembly

Distr.: General
7 April 2016

Original: English

Thirtieth special session
Item 7 of the provisional agenda*
General debate

Letter dated 6 April 2016 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the declaration adopted by the member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem, to be held in New York from 19 to 21 April 2016 (see annex).

On behalf of the member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, I would appreciate it if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the special session, under item 7 of the provisional agenda.

(*Signed*) Ildar **Shigabutdinov**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/S-30/1.

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Annex to the letter dated 6 April 2016 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Declaration of States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem

The States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), in accordance with the common position on the drug threat agreed at the SCO summit meeting in Ufa on 10 July 2015, hereby declare the following:

1. SCO member States express concern at the worsening problem of the international drug threat, which is a serious challenge to international security and to the sustainable economic development of States and requires the consolidation of efforts by the international community;

2. Member States express the firm commitment to maintain and strengthen the current international drug control system, on the basis of the three main conventions of the United Nations and with the latter in a central coordinating role, and have consistently opposed attempts to undermine the existing international system to counter the drug threat;

3. Member States believe in the crucial importance of joint efforts based on an integrated and balanced approach and the principle of States' common and shared responsibility to address the world drug problem, with a focus on concrete measures aimed at subsequently eliminating global drug production including eradicating illicit narcotic plants and the processing facilities for them, establishing an effective legal response to the emergence of new synthetic drugs and other psychoactive substances, and strengthening cooperation in the areas of rehabilitation from drug addiction and effective drug demand reduction;

4. SCO member States express concern about the high level of drug production in Afghanistan, which is a threat to the socioeconomic development and security of Afghanistan and other States. In that context, they are ready to engage in combating the drug threat both bilaterally and multilaterally and to contribute towards the consolidation of efforts by the international community and cooperation to address this problem.

United Nations A/S-30/4

General Assembly

Distr.: General
31 March 2016

Original: English

Thirtieth special session
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*
Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its preparatory work

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its preparatory work for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the General Assembly, pursuant to Assembly resolution 70/181, the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its preparatory work for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.

* A/S-30/1.

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Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its preparatory work for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

I. Mandate and background

1. In the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted during the high-level segment of the fifty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/182, Member States decided that the Commission, at its fifty-seventh session, in 2014, should conduct a high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, recommended that the Economic and Social Council devote a high-level segment to a theme related to the world drug problem, and also recommended that the General Assembly hold a special session to address the world drug problem.

2. The General Assembly, in its resolution 67/193, decided to convene, early in 2016, a special session on the world drug problem to review progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments.

3. In its resolution 68/197, the General Assembly requested the Commission, as the United Nations organ with prime responsibility for drug control matters, to engage in the preparatory process for the special session, including by presenting proposals from the fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions of the Commission through the Economic and Social Council in support of the preparatory process, including progress made in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, to be considered by the Assembly starting at its sixty-ninth session.

4. The midterm review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action was undertaken by the Commission during the high-level segment of its fifty-seventh session, held on 13 and 14 March 2014. Member States conducted a general debate on progress achieved and challenges in implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action. Round-table discussions were held on the three pillars of the Plan of Action: (a) demand reduction; (b) supply reduction; and (c) international cooperation. On 14 March 2014, participants adopted the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action (see A/69/87-E/2014/80).

5. At its fifty-seventh session, the Commission also adopted resolution 57/5, in which it decided to take all possible measures to ensure an adequate, inclusive and effective preparatory process for the special session by using its existing meetings and reporting entitlements in the most efficient manner. In addition, it submitted, through the Economic and Social Council, recommendations on modalities related to the preparations for and conduct of the special session. These recommendations were adopted by the Assembly in its resolution 69/200, by which the Assembly decided that the Commission, as the central policymaking body within the United

Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, should lead the preparatory process of the special session of the Assembly by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner, and invited the President of the Assembly to support, guide and stay involved in the process.

6. In its resolution 69/200, the General Assembly invited organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, multilateral development banks, other relevant international organizations, including the International Narcotics Control Board, and regional organizations to contribute fully to the preparations for the special session in 2016, in particular by submitting to the Commission, through the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), specific recommendations on the issues to be addressed at the special session.

7. In the same resolution, the General Assembly recognized the important role played by civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, in the preparations for and during the fifty-second and fifty-seventh sessions of the Commission, including their high-level segments. It further recognized the need for their active involvement in the preparations for the special session, as well as the need for their effective, substantive and active involvement during the special session, in accordance with the rules of procedure and practice developed for other special sessions of the Assembly, and requested the Chair of the Commission to consider undertaking consultations and other appropriate actions in that regard with relevant stakeholders.

8. Further to its resolution 57/5, and to ensure an adequate inclusive and effective preparatory process, the Commission established a website for the special session (www.ungass2016.org) to enable global dialogue in an inclusive and transparent manner. Relevant United Nations entities, international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations have been invited to send written contributions. All contributions received have been posted on the website. Presentations made during the formal meetings of the Commission and during interactive informal discussions and side events are also available on the website.

9. At its reconvened fifty-seventh session, held from 3 to 5 December 2014, the Commission held a special segment on the preparations for the special session, at which Member States and other stakeholders discussed substantive and organizational matters in relation to the preparations for the special session. At that session, the Commission adopted decision 57/2, pursuant to which a Board tasked by the Commission with the preparations for the special session was established. The Board has been in charge of organizing all actions to be taken by the Commission in preparation for the special session, by addressing all organizational and substantive matters, in an open-ended manner, in preparation for and during the special segments of sessions of the Commission devoted to the preparations. The Board was elected on the basis of the regional distribution of officers of the Bureau of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission and has been facilitating the participation of all States Members and observers of the United Nations, along with organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, multilateral development banks and other relevant international and regional organizations, parliamentarians, the scientific community and civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, in the preparations of the Commission for the special session (see E/2014/28/Add.1-E/CN.7/2014/16/Add.1).

10. The special segment on the preparations for the special session, held on the occasion of the regular fifty-eighth session of the Commission, was convened during the first four days of the session, from 9 to 12 March 2015. A total of 131 States, as well as more than 65 non-governmental organizations and 15 international and intergovernmental organizations, participated. The special segment included a general debate on preparations for the special session.

11. Further to the general debate, five interactive discussions were held on the following thematic areas: (a) demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues; and ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion ("drugs and health"); (b) supply reduction and related measures; responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation ("drugs and crime"); (c) cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, women, children and communities; (d) cross-cutting issues: new challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three international drug control conventions; and strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and international cooperation; (e) alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented, balanced drug control policy; and addressing socioeconomic issues. Members of the Board chaired the interactive discussions, and presented a summary of the outcome of their respective discussions at the closing session of the special segment (see A/70/87-E/2015/79).

12. Furthermore, at that session, the Commission adopted resolution 58/8 and recommended to the Economic and Social Council the approval of a draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly defining the modalities for the special session on the world drug problem.

13. The General Assembly adopted resolution 70/181, entitled "Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016", on 17 December 2015. In the resolution, the Assembly decided that the special session would be held from 19 to 21 April 2016 and would consist of a general debate and five interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables conducted in parallel to the plenary. In addition to the provisions related to the preparations for the elaboration of the outcome document and the preparations for the conduct of the round tables, the resolution contains provisions related to the opening of the special session and the general debate, on the participation of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and the participation of representatives of other relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society and the scientific community, academia, youth groups and other relevant stakeholders that may participate in the special session, with due regard for geographical balance. In resolution 70/181, the Assembly reiterated the importance of an inclusive preparatory process, including extensive substantive consultations, and encouraged organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, relevant international and regional organizations, civil society, academia, the scientific community and other relevant stakeholders to continue to fully contribute to the process by actively participating in the preparations undertaken by the Commission, in accordance with relevant rules of procedure and established practice. The Assembly further requested the Commission to produce a short, substantive, concise

and action-oriented document comprising a set of operational recommendations for adoption at the special session (see section II), and decided that the Commission should address in an open-ended manner, supported and guided by the President of the General Assembly, the organizational arrangements, including chairing arrangements, speakers and participation for the five interactive multi-stakeholder round tables (see section III).

14. At its reconvened fifty-eighth session in December 2015, the Commission conducted a special segment on the preparations for the special session, at which Member States and other stakeholders discussed in further detail substantive and organizational matters in relation to the preparations for the special session. The Commission adopted decision 58/16, thereby further defining arrangements for the five interactive round tables to be held at the special session (see annex I).

15. The special segment on the preparations for the special session, held on the occasion of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission, was convened during the first three days of the session, from 14 to 16 March 2016. A total of 131 States, as well as more than 84 non-governmental organizations and 17 international and intergovernmental organizations, participated.

16. A general debate was held during which participants considered the draft provisional agenda of the special session, including preparations for the interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables, as well as the outcome of the special session and other organizational matters (see also annex II). The Commission adopted resolution 59/1, entitled "Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016", which had been submitted by the Chair following negotiations by the Commission based on the text prepared by the Board tasked by the Commission with the preparations for the special session (see E/CN.7/2016/L.12/Rev.1). In that resolution, the Commission decided to transmit the outcome document, entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem", annexed to the resolution, to the General Assembly and to recommend its adoption at the plenary of the special session (see annex III).

II. Elaboration of the outcome document

17. In paragraph 5 of resolution 70/181, the General Assembly requested the Commission to produce a short, substantive, concise and action-oriented document comprising a set of operational recommendations, based upon a review of the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements as well as ways to address long-standing and emerging challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments. That document, to be recommended for adoption at the plenary of the special session, should, inter alia, address measures to reach an effective balance between supply and demand reduction and address the key causes and consequences of the world drug problem, including those in the health, social, human rights, economic, justice and security fields, in line with the principle of common and shared responsibility.

18. At the invitation of the Board tasked by the Commission with the preparations for the special session, conveyed during the intersessional meeting of the

Commission on 12 June 2015, Member States provided, through their respective regional representatives on the Board, proposals for consideration in the preparation of the outcome document. By the deadline set for mid-September, more than 180 pages of proposals had been received, which have been compiled into a comprehensive package and circulated to all Member States through the members of the Board.

19. A timeline consisting of two phases was agreed upon during the intersessional meeting of the Commission on 24 September 2015. During the first phase of the elaboration of the outcome document, in accordance with the timeline agreed upon, Member States focused predominantly on shaping the main elements to be included in that document. In that regard, the Board shared with the Commission three versions of an "elements paper", for further consideration by Member States. The three versions reflected the feedback received by Member States during informal consultations and intersessional meetings held on 15 October, 12 November and 8 December 2015. The elements paper, as discussed, updated and fine-tuned during the first phase, provided the foundation for the elaboration of the draft outcome document.

20. The Board presented a first draft of the outcome document on 14 January 2016. Based on the comments received during multiple rounds of informal consultations and intersessional meetings held on 27 January and 24 February 2016, the Board prepared revised drafts dated 9 February and 25 February 2016.

21. Following a series of intensive informal consultations and open-ended negotiations, the Commission, at its fifty-ninth session, on 22 March, adopted resolution 59/1 containing the outcome document entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem" for transmission to the General Assembly and recommended its adoption at the plenary of the special session (see annex III).

III. Organizational arrangements for the interactive multi-stakeholder round tables

22. In operative paragraph 3 (f) of its resolution 70/181, the General Assembly decided that the Commission, as the entity leading the preparations for the special session, should address in an open-ended manner, supported and guided by the President of the General Assembly, the organizational arrangements, including chairing arrangements, speakers and participation, for the five interactive multi-stakeholder round tables, while considering the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, in line with General Assembly resolutions 67/193 and 69/201.

23. The themes of those five round tables were also set out in General Assembly resolution 70/181. They are identical to the themes of the five interactive discussions held during the special segment of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission in March 2015.

A. Themes of the round tables

24. Pursuant to operative paragraph 3 (f) of General Assembly resolution 70/181, the interactive multi-stakeholder round tables will focus on the following themes:

(a) Round table 1: Demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues; and ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion ("drugs and health"):

(i) Demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as health-related issues, including HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care;

(ii) Ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion;

(b) Round table 2: Supply reduction and related measures; responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation ("drugs and crime"):

(i) Domestic, regional and cross-regional responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering, including, where appropriate, in connection with the financing of terrorism, and promoting judicial cooperation in criminal matters;

(ii) Addressing emerging issues, including new psychoactive substances, precursors and the misuse of the Internet;

(c) Round table 3: Cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, women, children and communities:

(i) Addressing drug-related issues in full conformity with the purposes and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions;

(ii) Drugs and youth, women, children and communities;

(d) Round table 4: Cross-cutting issues: new challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions; strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and international cooperation:

(i) New challenges, threats and realities in preventing and addressing the world drug problem in compliance with relevant international law, including the three drug control conventions;

(ii) Strengthening the principle of common and shared responsibility and enhancing international cooperation, including technical assistance, leading up to 2019;

(e) Round table 5: Alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy; addressing socioeconomic issues:

(i) Drugs, addressing socioeconomic issues and fostering alternative development, including preventive alternative development;

(ii) Enhancing regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented, balanced drug control policy.

B. Organizational arrangements for the round tables

25. In accordance with decision 58/16, adopted by the Commission at its reconvened fifty-eighth session, the five round tables will be scheduled as follows:

- 19 April 2016 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- 20 April 2016 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- 21 April 2016 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

26. All States Members of the United Nations, observer States and observers, including relevant international organizations with observer status and entities of the United Nations system, as well as representatives of non-governmental organizations, representatives of civil society and the scientific community, academia, youth groups and other relevant stakeholders participating in the special session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 70/181, are invited to participate in the round tables.

27. By its decision 58/16, the Commission decided that the round tables should be co-chaired by two representatives of two different regional groups: one of the co-chairs should be a member of the Board and the other should be from a different regional group, to be nominated by the respective regional group at United Nations Headquarters and appointed by the President of the General Assembly. Furthermore, each round table should consist of a panel composed of six panellists, five of whom were to be nominated by regional groups and one by the civil society task force for the special session. The panel could further include up to two speakers from the entities of the United Nations system. The interventions by the panellists should be followed by an interactive discussion and, in order to accommodate as many speakers as possible, interventions by the panellists should be limited to a maximum of five minutes and interventions from the floor to a maximum of three minutes. The Commission further decided that a summary of the salient points raised during the round tables would be prepared by the chairs of those round tables and presented at the plenary. Those summaries, as read out, would be included in their entirety in the verbatim records of the plenary meetings of the special session, following the standard procedures of special sessions.

28. In his letter dated 21 March 2016, addressed to the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the President of the General Assembly informed the Chair about the nominations received so far. That information was brought to the attention of the Commission during the special segment on the preparations for the special session held at the occasion of its fifty-ninth session (see annex II).

Annex I

Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

By its decision 58/16, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs adopted the following arrangements for the five interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables to be held at the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem.

Pursuant to paragraph 3 (f) of General Assembly resolution 70/181 of 17 December 2015, in which the Assembly decided that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the entity leading the preparations for the special session of the Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, should address in an open-ended manner, supported and guided by the President of the Assembly, the organizational arrangements, including chairing arrangements, speakers and participation, for the five interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables to be conducted during the special session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs decided on the following arrangements for the round tables:

(a) The five interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables shall be scheduled as follows:

(i) 19 April 2016, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.;

(ii) 20 April 2016, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.;

(iii) 21 April 2016, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.;

(b) All States Members of the United Nations, as well as observer States and observers, including relevant international organizations with observer status and entities of the United Nations system, as well as representatives of non-governmental organizations, representatives of civil society and the scientific community, academia, youth groups and other relevant stakeholders participating in the special session in accordance with resolution 70/181, paragraph 3 (e), are invited to participate in the interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables;

(c) Member States, observer States and observers are encouraged to consider being represented at the special session at the highest possible level;

(d) The interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables shall be co-chaired by two representatives of two different regional groups — one of the co-Chairs should be a member of the Board tasked by the Commission with the preparations for the special session and the other co-Chair shall be from a different regional group, to be nominated by the respective regional group at United Nations Headquarters and appointed by the President of the General Assembly;

(e) Each round table shall consist of a panel composed of five panellists to be nominated by the regional groups and one panellist nominated by the civil society task force for the special session; the panel could further include up to two speakers from the entities of the United Nations system. The final list of the panellists and other speakers will be drawn up by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in consultation with the President of the General Assembly;

(f) The interventions by the panellists shall be followed by an interactive discussion and, in order to accommodate as many speakers as possible, interventions by the panellists shall be limited to a maximum of five minutes, and interventions from the floor shall be limited to a maximum of three minutes;

(g) A summary of the salient points raised during the round tables will be prepared by the chairs of those round tables, to be presented at the plenary;

(h) These summaries of the salient points by the chairs, as read out in the plenary meeting, will be included in their entirety in the verbatim records of the plenary meetings of the special session, as per the standard procedures of the special sessions.

Annex II

Special segment of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

A. Opening

1. The special segment of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs was held from 14 to 16 March 2016. The special segment was opened by the Chair of the Board tasked by the Commission, in its decision 57/2, with the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016. The Commission adopted the agenda and organization of work for its special segment, as contained in Commission decision 58/15 and the annex to document E/CN.7/2016/15. The substance of agenda item 4 was subsumed under the special segment.

2. At the opening of the fifty-ninth session and the special segment, the Commission viewed a video statement by the President of the General Assembly. Statements, including on issues relating to the preparations for the special session, were made by the representative of the Sudan (on behalf of the Group of African States), the representative of Pakistan (on behalf of the Group of Asia-Pacific States) and the representative of the Netherlands (on behalf of the European Union and its member States, as well as Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, San Marino, Turkey and Ukraine).

3. For its consideration during its special segment, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Contribution of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 (UNODC/ED/2016/1);

(b) Report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on action taken by Member States to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (E/CN.7/2016/6);

(c) Note by the Secretariat on organizational arrangements for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 (E/CN.7/2016/15).

B. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

4. At the 1st to the 5th meetings, from 14 to 16 March 2016, the Commission considered item 3 of the agenda for the special segment, entitled "Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held

in 2016". Sub-items (a) to (c) of agenda item 3 were considered jointly by the Commission in the format of a general debate.

5. Statements were made by the representatives of Thailand, Colombia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Czech Republic, Afghanistan, the Russian Federation, Ecuador, Peru, the United States of America, Singapore, Mexico, India, Portugal, Brunei Darussalam, Italy, Saudi Arabia, Germany, France, Tajikistan, Spain, Uruguay, Nigeria, Poland, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Jordan, Brazil, El Salvador, the Philippines, Romania, Uzbekistan, Malaysia, Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Norway, New Zealand, Sweden, the United Arab Emirates, Guatemala, Algeria, Turkey, Kuwait, Chile, Cuba, Qatar, Belgium, Morocco, Tunisia, the Sudan, Iraq, Mozambique, Indonesia, Japan, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Croatia, Viet Nam, China, Israel, Honduras, Egypt, Namibia, Slovenia, Kenya, the Dominican Republic, Argentina, Hungary, Switzerland, Yemen, the Republic of Moldova, Kazakhstan and Angola.

6. The observer for the Holy See made a statement. The representative of Singapore made a statement on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The observers for the World Health Organization (WHO), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the United Nations Development Programme, the League of Arab States and the Pompidou Group of the Council of Europe made statements. The observers for the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Union of South American Nations and the African Union also made statements. The observers for the Sovereign Military Order of Malta and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies made statements.

7. The observers for the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs and the Civil Society Task Force for UNGASS 2016, Active — Sobriety, Friendship and Peace, Europe against Drugs, the International Drug Policy Consortium, the Therapy Centre for Dependent Individuals, the Eurasian Harm Reduction Network and Penal Reform International made statements.

8. Representatives of the Youth Forum also made a statement.

9. Many speakers emphasized the significant efforts undertaken by the Commission in leading the preparatory process and commended the efforts made by and the leadership of the Board tasked with the preparations for the special session. The inclusiveness of the preparatory process for the special session was welcomed by several speakers.

10. Speakers emphasized that the special session would provide a key opportunity for the international community to take stock of the achievements of the international drug control system to date and to review progress made in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in addressing the world drug problem.

11. Many speakers reaffirmed their commitment to the effective implementation of the three international drug control conventions, as well as the importance of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and of the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action. It was noted by several

speakers that there was sufficient scope and flexibility within the conventions to accommodate different national and regional approaches, and a number of speakers noted that there was no "one-size-fits-all" solution to addressing the world drug problem. Many speakers also referred to the importance of other relevant international legal instruments, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to addressing the world drug problem. It was noted by several speakers that the fundamental goal of the international drug control conventions was to ensure the health and welfare of humankind.

12. It was stressed that the world drug problem remained a major and complex challenge for the international community that gave rise to serious public health consequences and required a balanced, integrated and comprehensive approach on the basis of common and shared responsibility, in accordance with the international drug control conventions. A number of speakers referred to new approaches, visions and realities, noted that it should be possible for countries to develop their own drug control policies and that an open dialogue, taking into account lessons learned and experiences of States, was needed.

13. Several speakers noted that the special session would allow the international community to elaborate on the significant challenges in the context of the national, regional and global responses to the world drug problem and to identify effective drug policies.

14. Many speakers recognized the leading role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the United Nations organ with the prime responsibility for drug control matters, including in the preparatory process for the special session, as well as the role of UNODC as the leading entity in the United Nations system for assisting Member States in countering the world drug problem.

15. Several speakers highlighted the importance of the adoption, on 25 September 2015, of General Assembly resolution 70/1, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", stressed its importance in the context of addressing the world drug problem and noted that, in setting the agenda towards 2019, the special session should undertake concrete actions to contribute to achieving the targets set out in the 2030 Agenda.

16. Several speakers highlighted the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, human dignity, liberty, democracy, equality, solidarity, the rule of law and the right to health, and of a people-centred approach to addressing the world drug problem.

17. Several speakers referred to the importance of ensuring the proportionality of sentencing and alternatives to conviction or punishment, especially for persons who committed minor, non-violent drug-related offences. Several speakers reaffirmed their strong opposition to the use of the death penalty in all circumstances, including for drug-related offences, and called for a moratorium on the death penalty. Other speakers stressed that the principles of national sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of States should be fully respected and, in that regard, further stressed that every country had the sovereign right and responsibility to decide and implement the most appropriate approach to addressing the world drug problem.

18. The importance of further enhancing efforts to ensure the adequate availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion, trafficking and abuse, was highlighted by many speakers.

19. Speakers called for a balanced approach to supply and demand reduction strategies, policies and laws, which also included efforts to mainstream the gender perspective as well as address the specific needs of children and young people. The crucial need for evidence-based, coordinated and long-term prevention programmes, strategies and measures, with a focus on young people, families, schools and other social settings, was stressed.

20. Reference was made to the increasing recognition by many States that drug addiction was also a public health rather than solely a law enforcement issue and that States should promote policies based on development, public health and human rights. Several speakers stressed the need to guarantee access to comprehensive, evidence-based drug demand reduction services that included primary prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery and social reintegration. A number of speakers referred to the effectiveness of risk and harm reduction measures and recommended their implementation to States.

21. Several speakers expressed their concern regarding the legalization and decriminalization of certain drugs in some regions of the world and noted that they were contrary to the spirit and the letter of the three international drug control conventions, while also hindering ongoing efforts to combat the world drug problem. Other speakers noted that it was every country's sovereign right and responsibility to design and implement its own approaches and policies to drug control.

22. Several speakers stressed the need to urgently address the linkages between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons and trafficking in firearms, as well as money-laundering, corruption, cybercrime, violence and terrorism and its financing. The threat posed by drug trafficking to stability, safety and security was also recognized, as was the need to tackle illicit financial flows arising from drug trafficking and other forms of crime.

23. The importance of reinforcing regional and international cooperation in the areas of exchange of intelligence and information, including on best practices relating to drug control strategies, as well as mutual legal assistance and extradition, was emphasized by several speakers.

24. Appreciation was expressed for regional cooperation frameworks, and the need for greater cooperation between subregional and regional cooperation networks was noted. Reference was made by several speakers to the Declaration of Santo Domingo adopted by the third Ministerial Meeting on the World Drug Problem of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States. Other speakers referred to the position statement adopted at the fourth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters.

25. The rapid emergence and continued proliferation of new psychoactive substances, the threat posed by amphetamine-type stimulants and the risk that they posed to public health were acknowledged. The need for innovative, balanced and evidence-based national and international approaches and frameworks to dealing

with new psychoactive substances was stressed. Reference was also made to the need to further strengthen and coordinate the strategy on the control of precursors diverted for illicit use.

26. A number of speakers called for increased technical and financial assistance to transit and developing countries to enhance their capacities to address the world drug problem, and called on UNODC to continue mobilizing resources in that regard.

27. The importance of alternative development, including preventive alternative development, and the need for investment by donors and affected countries in such programmes, was highlighted. Reference was made to the outcome of the international seminar/workshop on the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and the Second International Conference on Alternative Development, held in Bangkok from 19 to 24 November 2015.

28. The Commission and UNODC were encouraged to seek and strengthen synergies with other United Nations specialized agencies, organs, entities and relevant international organizations, in accordance with their mandate. The important role of the International Narcotics Control Board in addressing the world drug problem was noted. Speakers stressed the importance of participatory approaches and cooperation and the role of civil society, the scientific community, academia and other relevant stakeholders in the development and implementation of drug policies at the local, national and international levels.

C. Other business

29. At its 12th meeting, on 22 March 2016, the Commission considered item 4 of the agenda for the special segment. No issues were raised under this item.

D. Outcome and closure of the special segment

30. At its 12th meeting, on 22 March 2016, the Commission considered item 5 of the agenda for the special segment.

31. A statement was made by the Chair of the Board tasked by the Commission with the preparations for the special session.

32. The Commission considered the implementation of its decision 58/16, whereby it had defined the modalities for the organization of the five interactive, multi-stakeholder round tables to be held during the special session. The Chair of the Board informed the Commission that the nominations the President of the General Assembly had received to date had been brought to the attention of the Commission (E/CN.7/2016/CRP.8).

E. Action taken by the Commission

33. At its 12th meeting, on 22 March 2016, the Commission adopted a revised draft resolution entitled "Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016" (E/CN.7/2016/L.12/Rev.1). (For the text, see annex III.)

34. Prior to the adoption of the resolution, the representative of Pakistan noted that although he had stated, in the course of the preparations for the special session and the negotiations on the outcome document, that the structure of the outcome document should replicate the three-pronged approach of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, in the spirit of compromise and flexibility, his country had decided to go along with the proposal by the Board and the negotiated outcome document. The representative of Pakistan also expressed appreciation for the guidance by the Board in leading the preparations to a successful conclusion.

35. Prior to the adoption of the resolution, the observer for Switzerland noted that his country was generally satisfied with the outcome of the negotiations and that, although Switzerland was not able to join the consensus on the document as a whole pending approval by his Government of preambular paragraph 7, it would not stand in the way of consensus.[1]

36. Following the adoption of the resolution, the representative of the Netherlands made a statement on behalf of the European Union and its member States, as well as on behalf of Argentina, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Mexico, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey and Uruguay. The representative expressed deep regret that the outcome document of the special session did not contain language on the abolition of the death penalty and noted that the parties on whose behalf the statement was made strongly and unequivocally opposed the death penalty in all circumstances. The representative also stated that the death penalty undermined human dignity and that errors made in its application were irreversible. Moreover, imposing the death penalty for drug offences undermined the norms of international law, specifically article 6, paragraph 2, of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. The representative underlined the importance of the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 69/186, on a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, which was adopted in December 2014 with an unprecedented number of votes and in which the Assembly, as an interim step, had called for international minimum standards on the use of the death penalty to be respected. Furthermore, the representative noted that the parties on whose behalf the statement was made had welcomed the recent decision of the International Narcotics Control Board to call on countries still applying the death penalty to consider its abolition for drug-related offences. The representative urged Member States to respect the international minimum standards on the use of the death penalty and impose a moratorium on its use as a step towards its final abolition.

37. The representative of Brazil welcomed the adoption of the outcome document of the special session, which was an important step towards more balanced, effective and humane drug policies. He reaffirmed his country's concern regarding the application of the death penalty for drug-related offences and expressed his country's belief that no crime warranted the application of the death penalty, which was a human rights violation. Furthermore, the representative expressed his country's concern regarding the recent increase in the number of executions for drug-related crimes in countries that applied the death penalty and respectfully proposed to those countries that, with due regard for their national realities, they

[1] By note verbale dated 30 March 2016, the Permanent Mission of Switzerland informed the Secretariat that it had obtained clearance from the competent authorities and that Switzerland joined the consensus on the resolution as a whole.

consider the possibility of adopting a moratorium on the application of the death penalty for drug-related crimes, with a view to its final abolition.

38. The observer for Chile noted his country's agreement with the statement made by the representative of the Netherlands who had made a statement on behalf of the European Union.

39. The representative of Indonesia made a statement, speaking also on behalf of Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, China, Egypt, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kuwait, Malaysia, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, the Sudan, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen. The representative put on record the following principled position of those delegations concerning the important issue of the death penalty: there was no international consensus on the issue of the death penalty; the death penalty was not prohibited under international law; its application was a criminal justice matter for individual States to be decided by their competent authorities and each State had the sovereign right to decide on its own justice system, taking into account its own circumstances; every State had the sovereign right to choose its own political, economic, social and legal system based on its own best interest; and the issue of the death penalty did not fall under the mandate of the Commission, which was not the right platform to raise this topic. The representative reiterated that the death penalty was an important component of the administration of the law by and the justice systems of the countries on whose behalf he made the statement, that it was imposed only for the most serious crimes and that it served as a deterrent. Furthermore, he stated that the world drug problem continued to pose a threat to the safety and security of all and that those countries had proper legal safeguards and national policies in place that prevented any miscarriages of justice.

40. The observer for Morocco, speaking on behalf of the African Group, expressed appreciation to the Board tasked with the preparations for the special session and its Chair for facilitating consensus and enabling the adoption of the outcome document.

41. The representative of Colombia, also speaking on behalf of Guatemala, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Switzerland and Uruguay, noted that the outcome document was a step forward and reflected the new avenues along which the international community should progress in its debate on the world drug problem. He stated that, owing to the consensus, some issues had remained unresolved that should be resolved in the future in order to have more people-focused policies that would deal with the challenges identified. He noted that much remained to be done and that the United Nations should make preparations to ensure a comprehensive approach for 2019 and beyond. He also recalled that the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was an opportunity to align all policies, including drug policies, so that they favoured development, inclusion and peaceful societies.

42. The observer for New Zealand reiterated his country's strong opposition to the death penalty under any circumstances, expressed disappointment that this position was not reflected in the outcome document and noted that his country would continue its efforts for the global abolition of the death penalty at every opportunity and urged other States to do the same.

43. The representative of Australia expressed his country's disappointment that the outcome document did not refer to the abolition of the death penalty and noted that his country had consistently opposed the use of the death penalty in all

circumstances, including in relation to drug-related crimes, throughout the preparatory process. He stated that the absence of such a reference weakened the impact of the outcome document and that his country would continue to press for global abolition of the death penalty. Australia urged all other Member States to do so as well.

44. The representative of Norway expressed his country's strong regret that there was no reference to the abolition of the death penalty in the outcome document and noted that his country consistently opposed the use of the death penalty, including for drug-related crimes, throughout the preparatory process. He stated that there was no empirical evidence proving that the death penalty had a deterring effect and that the absence of any reference to the abolition of the death penalty weakened the impact of the outcome document. The representative also stated that his country would continue to press for the global abolition of the death penalty and respect for the right to life, and urged other Member States to do so as well.

45. The observer for Oman expressed support for the statement made by Indonesia and emphasized the need to observe the three international drug control conventions and to respect the principles of national sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-intervention in the internal affairs of States. He also emphasized the importance of bilateral, regional and international cooperation on drugs and respect for the right of States to adopt their own policies and laws regarding drugs.

46. The representative of Nigeria stated that the outcome document addressed the key issues and concerns within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments. He called on Member States to embrace the document and find solace in the spirit of the Vienna consensus.

47. The observer for Romania noted that, in her delegation's view, sovereignty was not incompatible with the right to life and that modern society had the means to defend itself without definitively denying drug offenders the opportunity to reform.

48. The observer for the United Arab Emirates aligned himself with the statement delivered by Indonesia that it was the sovereign right of States to determine their own national affairs based on their own legal systems, including laws and penal codes. He also noted that the right to life could not be granted to those who took away the lives of others and that States that were calling for the abolition of the death penalty did so as a general principle in relation to all crimes, and he referred to the linkages between the activities of terrorists and those of drug traffickers. He expressed gratitude that the outcome document did not contain a reference to the abolition of the death penalty.

49. The representative of Thailand welcomed the adoption of the outcome document, which was the result of a collective effort.

50. The observer for Tunisia noted that the outcome document expressed the aspirations of all States concerning the fight against drugs, that its adoption was due to the flexibility of many States and that, in that regard, his delegation had accepted language that did not adequately refer to the linkage between drugs and terrorism. He reaffirmed the importance of the three international drug control conventions as the pillars of international policies and of a comprehensive, balanced and shared approach.

51. The representative of the Russian Federation welcomed the adoption of the outcome document and noted that agreeing on it would not have been possible without the great flexibility and the spirit of consensus that prevailed among Member States.

52. The observer for Iraq reaffirmed the importance of upholding the three international drug control conventions as main pillars. He noted that his delegation's agreement to some amended language in the outcome document did not mean that the three conventions should be overlooked in the context of national, regional or international policies or in the development of other strategies. He expressed the hope that the amended language would not be a precedent concerning the status of the three conventions and would not undermine their role in addressing the world drug problem. He also recalled that criminal justice systems were an internal affair for each Member State and that it was the prerogative of Member States to determine the most constructive approach in line with the magnitude of the challenge, be it the world drug problem or transnational organized crime or terrorism.

53. The observer for the European Union thanked the Board and all partners for their contributions to a truly collective effort.

54. The representative of China welcomed the outcome document, which reaffirmed the commitment to the three international drug control conventions and to the comprehensive and integrated drug control programmes. He noted that the document also reflected the emerging challenges posed by new psychoactive substances and that it laid a good foundation for a successful special session.

55. The observer for Egypt, speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, acknowledged the spirit of cooperation and flexibility during the negotiations of the outcome document.

56. The observer for the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela pointed out that for some countries and regions, the drug problem had turned into a punitive activity, threatening governance and becoming an obstacle to human development and the development of societies. He also stated that the political and legal platform provided by the three international drug control conventions should be used to develop an approach for different countries that respected the position of each Member State of the United Nations and that addressed the legal, political and social aspects of the world drug problem based on scientific evidence, learning from historical experience, with a view to emphasizing human rights and applying diverse and well-considered measures within the framework of international law.

57. The observer for Afghanistan welcomed the adoption of the outcome document as an important step forward in the collective efforts to address and counter the world drug problem, in particular the new challenges and threats, including at the regional level. The observer stated that the outcome document was a hallmark of the preparatory process for the special session.

Annex III

Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, in which the Assembly decided to convene, in early 2016, a special session on the world drug problem,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 70/181 of 17 December 2015, in which the Assembly requested the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to produce a short, substantive, concise and action-oriented document to be recommended for adoption at the plenary of the special session,

Decides to transmit the outcome document, entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem", which is annexed to the present resolution, to the General Assembly and to recommend its adoption at the plenary of the special session on the world drug problem to be held from 19 to 21 April 2016.

Annex

Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem

We, heads of State and Government, ministers and representatives of Member States, assembled at United Nations Headquarters from 19 to 21 April 2016 for the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, convened in accordance with Assembly resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, to review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[2] including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments;

We reaffirm our commitment to the goals and objectives of the three international drug control conventions, including concern with the health and welfare of humankind as well as the individual and public health-related, social and safety problems resulting from the abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, in particular among children and young people, and drug-related crime, and we reaffirm our determination to prevent and treat the abuse of such substances and prevent and counter their illicit cultivation, production, manufacturing and trafficking;

We recognize that, while tangible progress has been achieved in some fields, the world drug problem continues to present challenges to the health, safety and

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

well-being of all humanity, and we resolve to reinforce our national and international efforts and further increase international cooperation to face those challenges;

We reaffirm our determination to tackle the world drug problem and to actively promote a society free of drug abuse in order to help ensure that all people can live in health, dignity and peace, with security and prosperity and reaffirm our determination to address public health, safety and social problems resulting from drug abuse;

We note with concern that the availability of internationally controlled drugs for medical and scientific purposes, including for the relief of pain and suffering, remains low to non-existent in many countries of the world, and we highlight the need to enhance national efforts and international cooperation at all levels to address that situation by promoting measures to ensure their availability and accessibility for medical and scientific purposes, within the framework of national legal systems, while simultaneously preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking, in order to fulfil the aims and objectives of the three international drug control conventions;

We recognize that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that should be addressed in a multilateral setting through effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing, balanced, scientific evidence-based and comprehensive approach;

We reaffirm our unwavering commitment to ensuring that all aspects of demand reduction and related measures, supply reduction and related measures, and international cooperation are addressed in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[3] with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States;

We underscore that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[4] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[5] the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988[6] and other relevant international instruments constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system;

We reaffirm our commitment to implementing effectively the provisions set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, mindful of the targets and goals set therein, as well as to addressing the general challenges and priorities for action identified in the Joint Ministerial Statement adopted at the high-level review in March 2014;[7]

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[3] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

[5] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[6] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

[7] Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on

We welcome the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[8] and we note that efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to effectively address the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing;

We recognize, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem, that appropriate emphasis should be placed on individuals, families, communities and society as a whole, with a view to promoting and protecting the health, safety and well-being of all humanity;

We recognize the importance of appropriately mainstreaming gender and age perspectives in drug-related policies and programmes;

We recognize that there are persistent, new and evolving challenges that should be addressed in conformity with the three international drug control conventions, which allow for sufficient flexibility for States parties to design and implement national drug policies according to their priorities and needs, consistent with the principle of common and shared responsibility and applicable international law;

We reaffirm the need to mobilize adequate resources to address and counter the world drug problem and call for enhancing assistance to developing countries, upon request, in effectively implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and the operational recommendations contained in the present document;

We recognize that transit States continue to face multifaceted challenges, and reaffirm the continuing need for cooperation and support, including the provision of technical assistance, to, inter alia, enhance their capacities to effectively address and counter the world drug problem, in conformity with the 1988 Convention;

We reaffirm the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, and our support and appreciation for the efforts of the United Nations, in particular those of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading entity in the United Nations system for addressing and countering the world drug problem, and further reaffirm the treaty-mandated roles of the International Narcotics Control Board and the World Health Organization;

We recognize that successfully addressing and countering the world drug problem requires close cooperation and coordination among domestic authorities at all levels, particularly in the health, education, justice and law enforcement sectors, taking into account their respective areas of competence under national legislation;

We welcome continued efforts to enhance coherence within the United Nations system at all levels;

We recognize that civil society, as well as the scientific community and academia, plays an important role in addressing and countering the world drug problem, and note that affected populations and representatives of civil society entities, where appropriate, should be enabled to play a participatory role in the formulation,

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International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (*Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 8* (E/2014/28), chap. I, sect. C).

[8] General Assembly resolution 70/1.

implementation, and the providing of relevant scientific evidence in support of, as appropriate, the evaluation of drug control policies and programmes, and we recognize the importance of cooperation with the private sector in this regard;

We express deep concern at the high price paid by society and by individuals and their families as a result of the world drug problem, and pay special tribute to those who have sacrificed their lives, in particular law enforcement and judicial personnel, and to the health-care and civil society personnel and volunteers who dedicate themselves to countering and addressing this phenomenon;

We reaffirm the need to strengthen cooperation between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, in their efforts to support Member States in the implementation of international drug control treaties in accordance with applicable human rights obligations and to promote protection of and respect for human rights and the dignity of all individuals in the context of drug programmes, strategies and policies;

We reaffirm the need to address the key causes and consequences of the world drug problem, including those in the health, social, human rights, economic, justice, public security and law enforcement fields, in line with the principle of common and shared responsibility, and recognize the value of comprehensive and balanced policy interventions, including those in the field of promotion of sustainable and viable livelihoods;

We reaffirm that targeted interventions that are based on the collection and analysis of data, including age- and gender-related data, can be particularly effective in meeting the specific needs of drug-affected populations and communities;

We reiterate our commitment to end by 2030 the epidemics of AIDS and tuberculosis, as well as combat viral hepatitis, other communicable diseases, inter alia, among people who use drugs, including people who inject drugs.

Operational recommendations on demand reduction and related measures, including prevention and treatment, as well as other health-related issues

1. We reiterate our commitment to promote the health, welfare and well-being of all individuals, families, communities and society as a whole, and facilitate healthy lifestyles through effective, comprehensive, scientific evidence-based demand reduction initiatives at all levels, covering, in accordance with national legislation and the three international drug control conventions, prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures, as well as initiatives and measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse, and we recommend the following measures:

Prevention of drug abuse

(a) Take effective and practical primary prevention measures that protect people, in particular children and youth, from drug use initiation by providing them with accurate information about the risks of drug abuse, by promoting skills and opportunities to choose healthy lifestyles and develop supportive parenting and

healthy social environments and by ensuring equal access to education and vocational training;

(b) Also take effective and practical measures to prevent progression to severe drug use disorders through appropriately targeted early interventions for people at risk of such progression;

(c) Increase the availability, coverage and quality of scientific evidence-based prevention measures and tools that target relevant age and risk groups in multiple settings, reaching youth in school as well as out of school, among others, through drug abuse prevention programmes and public awareness-raising campaigns, including by using the Internet, social media and other online platforms, develop and implement prevention curricula and early intervention programmes for use in the education system at all levels, as well as in vocational training, including in the workplace, and enhance the capacity of teachers and other relevant professionals to provide or recommend counselling, prevention and care services;

(d) Promote the well-being of society as a whole through the elaboration of effective scientific evidence-based prevention strategies centred on and tailored to the needs of individuals, families and communities as part of comprehensive and balanced national drug policies, on a non-discriminatory basis;

(e) Involve, as appropriate, policymakers, parliamentarians, educators, civil society, the scientific community, academia, target populations, individuals in recovery from substance use disorders and their peer groups, families and other co-dependent people, as well as the private sector, in the development of prevention programmes aimed at raising public awareness of the dangers and risks associated with drug abuse, and involve, inter alia, parents, care services providers, teachers, peer groups, health professionals, religious communities, community leaders, social workers, sports associations, media professionals and entertainment industries, as appropriate, in their implementation;

(f) Consider enhancing cooperation between public health, education and law enforcement authorities when developing prevention initiatives;

(g) Develop and improve recreational facilities and provide access for children and youth to regular sports and cultural activities, with a view to promoting healthy lives and lifestyles, including through the recovery and improvement of public spaces, and promote the exchange of experiences and good practices in this field to further enhance effective preventive interventions;

(h) Promote and improve the systematic collection of information and gathering of evidence as well as the sharing, at the national and international levels, of reliable and comparable data on drug use and epidemiology, including on social, economic and other risk factors, and promote, as appropriate, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Assembly, the use of internationally recognized standards, such as the *International Standards on Drug Use Prevention*, and the exchange of best practices, to formulate effective drug use prevention strategies and programmes in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities;

Treatment of drug use disorders, rehabilitation, recovery and social reintegration; prevention, treatment and care of HIV/AIDS, viral hepatitis and other blood-borne infectious diseases

(i) Recognize drug dependence as a complex, multifactorial health disorder characterized by a chronic and relapsing nature with social causes and consequences that can be prevented and treated through, inter alia, effective scientific evidence-based drug treatment, care and rehabilitation programmes, including community-based programmes, and strengthen capacity for aftercare for and the rehabilitation, recovery and social reintegration of individuals with substance use disorders, including, as appropriate, through assistance for effective reintegration into the labour market and other support services;

(j) Encourage the voluntary participation of individuals with drug use disorders in treatment programmes, with informed consent, where consistent with national legislation, and develop and implement outreach programmes and campaigns, involving drug users in long-term recovery, where appropriate, to prevent social marginalization and promote non-stigmatizing attitudes, as well as to encourage drug users to seek treatment and care, and take measures to facilitate access to treatment and expand capacity,

(k) Promote and strengthen regional and international cooperation in developing and implementing treatment-related initiatives, enhance technical assistance and capacity-building and ensure non-discriminatory access to a broad range of interventions, including psychosocial, behavioural and medication-assisted treatment, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, as well as to rehabilitation, social reintegration and recovery-support programmes, including access to such services in prisons and after imprisonment, giving special attention to the specific needs of women, children and youth in this regard;

(l) Develop and strengthen, as appropriate, the capacity of health, social and law enforcement and other criminal justice authorities to cooperate, within their mandates, in the implementation of comprehensive, integrated and balanced responses to drug abuse and drug use disorders, at all levels of government;

(m) Promote the inclusion in national drug policies, in accordance with national legislation and as appropriate, of elements for the prevention and treatment of drug overdose, in particular opioid overdose, including the use of opioid receptor antagonists such as naloxone to reduce drug-related mortality;

(n) Promote cooperation with and technical assistance to the States most affected by the transit of drugs in developing and implementing comprehensive and integrated policies to address, where appropriate, the impact of illicit drug trafficking on increasing drug use in such States, including by reinforcing national programmes aimed at prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation and social reintegration;

(o) Invite relevant national authorities to consider, in accordance with their national legislation and the three international drug control conventions, including in national prevention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures and programmes, in the context of comprehensive and balanced drug demand reduction efforts, effective measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse, including appropriate

medication-assisted therapy programmes, injecting equipment programmes, as well as antiretroviral therapy and other relevant interventions that prevent the transmission of HIV, viral hepatitis and other blood-borne diseases associated with drug use, as well as consider ensuring access to such interventions including in treatment and outreach services, prisons and other custodial settings, and promoting in that regard the use, as appropriate, of the *WHO, UNODC and UNAIDS Technical Guide for Countries to Set Targets for Universal Access to HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care for Injecting Drug Users*;[9]

(p) Promote and implement the standards on the treatment of drug use disorders developed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization and other relevant international standards, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation and the international drug control conventions, and provide guidance, assistance and training to health professionals on their appropriate use, and consider developing standards and accreditation for services at the domestic level to ensure qualified and scientific evidence-based responses;

(q) Intensify, as appropriate, the meaningful participation of and support and training for civil society organizations and entities involved in drug-related health and social treatment services, in accordance with national legislation and in the framework of integrated and coordinated national drug policies, and encourage efforts by civil society and the private sector to develop support networks for prevention and treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration in a balanced and inclusive manner;

(r) Encourage the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board to strengthen cooperation with the World Health Organization and other competent United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to strengthening health and social welfare measures in addressing the world drug problem, including through effective prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration, in cooperation, as appropriate, with civil society and the scientific community, and to keep the Commission on Narcotic Drugs appropriately updated.

Operational recommendations on ensuring the availability of and access to controlled substances exclusively for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion

2. We reiterate our strong commitment to improving access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes by appropriately addressing existing barriers in this regard, including those related to legislation, regulatory systems, health-care systems, affordability, the training of health-care professionals, education, awareness-raising, estimates, assessment and reporting, benchmarks for consumption of substances under control, and international cooperation and coordination, while concurrently preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking, and we recommend the following measures:

(a) Consider reviewing, within the framework of national legal systems, domestic legislation and regulatory and administrative mechanisms, as well as

[9] World Health Organization (Geneva, 2009).

procedures including domestic distribution channels, with the aim of simplifying and streamlining those processes and removing unduly restrictive regulations and impediments, where they exist, to ensure access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, including for the relief of pain and suffering, as required by the three international drug control conventions and defined by national legislation, while preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking, and encourage the exchange of information, lessons learned and best practices in designing and implementing regulatory, financial, educational, administrative and other related measures;

(b) Strengthen, as appropriate, the proper functioning of national control systems and domestic assessment mechanisms and programmes, in cooperation with the International Narcotics Control Board, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations system agencies, to identify, analyse and remove impediments to the availability and accessibility of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, within appropriate control mechanisms, as required by the three international drug control conventions and taking into account *Ensuring Balance in National Policies on Controlled Substances: Guidance for Availability and Accessibility of Controlled Medicines*[10] and, for that purpose, consider the provision of technical and financial assistance, upon request, to developing countries;

(c) Expedite, in accordance with national legislation, the process of issuing import and export authorizations for controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes by using the above-mentioned guidance and the International Import and Export Authorization System of the International Narcotics Control Board;

(d) Address, at the national and international levels, issues related to the affordability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, while ensuring their quality, safety and efficacy, including limited financial resources and problems in sourcing with regard to these substances, including in cooperation, as appropriate, with the private sector through, inter alia and where needed, expanding the national coverage of distribution networks to rural areas, addressing the link with government regulations, licences and taxation and allowing appropriately trained and qualified professionals to prescribe, dispense and administer controlled medicines based on their general professional licence, as well as, where appropriate, the manufacture of generic pharmaceutical preparations that are bioequivalent and cost-effective;

(e) Take measures, in accordance with national legislation, to provide capacity-building and training, including with the support of relevant United Nations entities such as the World Health Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, targeted at competent national authorities and health-care professionals, including pharmacists, on adequate access to and use of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, including the relief of pain and suffering, consider the development and wider implementation of relevant clinical guidelines on the rational use of controlled medicines, and conduct appropriate awareness-raising campaigns under the coordination of relevant national health authorities and in cooperation with other relevant stakeholders;

[10] World Health Organization (Geneva, 2011).

(f) Develop national supply management systems for controlled substances that comprise selection, quantification, procurement, storage, distribution and use, strengthen the capacity of competent national authorities to adequately estimate and assess the need for controlled substances and paying special attention to essential medicines, as defined by national legislation, taking due note of the *Guide on Estimating Requirements for Substances under International Control*,[11] and enhance domestic data-collection mechanisms in order to present the International Narcotics Control Board with estimates on the consumption of drugs used for medical and scientific purposes;

(g) Continue to regularly update the Model Lists of Essential Medicines of the World Health Organization, enhance collaboration among Member States and the treaty bodies with scheduling responsibilities, leading to informed and coordinated scheduling decisions by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs that take due account of all relevant aspects to ensure that the objectives of the conventions are met, and review national lists of controlled substances and national lists of essential medicines, as appropriate.

Operational recommendations on supply reduction and related measures; effective law enforcement; responses to drug-related crime; and countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation

3. We reiterate our commitment to protecting the safety and assuring the security of individuals, societies and communities by intensifying our efforts to prevent and counter the illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as drug-related crime and violence, through, inter alia, more effective drug-related crime prevention and law enforcement measures, as well as by addressing links with other forms of organized crime, including money-laundering, corruption and other criminal activities, mindful of their social and economic causes and consequences, and we recommend the following measures:

Prevention of drug-related crime

(a) Strengthen multidisciplinary measures at the international, regional, national, and local and community levels to prevent drug-related crime, violence, victimization and corruption and foster social development and inclusiveness, integrate such measures into overall law enforcement efforts and comprehensive policies and programmes, and promote a culture of lawfulness, as described in the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation;

(b) Promote comprehensive supply reduction efforts that include preventive measures addressing, inter alia, the criminal justice and socioeconomic-related factors that may facilitate, drive, enable and perpetuate organized crime and drug-related crime;

[11] International Narcotics Control Board and World Health Organization (Vienna, 2012).

(c) Promote data collection, research and the sharing of information, as well as the exchange of best practices on preventing and countering drug-related crime and on drug supply reduction measures and practices, in order to enhance the effectiveness of criminal justice responses, within the framework of applicable law;

Countering illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

(d) Increase cooperation at all levels and enhance measures to prevent and significantly and measurably reduce or eliminate the illicit cultivation of opium poppy, coca bush and cannabis plant used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including through eradication, within the framework of sustainable crop control strategies and measures;

(e) Monitor current trends and drug trafficking routes and share experiences, best practices and lessons learned, in order to prevent and counter the misuse of international trade for illicit drug-related activities, and note the success achieved through United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime operational initiatives, including initiatives aimed at countering the exploitation of freight containers for drug trafficking and at preventing and countering the diversion of precursors for illicit use and illicit financial flows stemming from drug trafficking and related crimes, as well as other technical assistance activities;

(f) Promote and strengthen the exchange of information and, as appropriate, drug-related criminal intelligence among law enforcement and border control agencies, including through the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime multilateral portals and regional information centres and networks, and promote joint investigations and coordinate operations, in conformity with national legislation, and training programmes at all levels, in order to identify, disrupt and dismantle organized criminal groups operating transnationally that are involved in any activities related to the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the diversion of their precursors and related money-laundering;

(g) Strengthen coordinated border management strategies, as well as the capacity of border control and law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies, including through technical assistance, upon request, including and where appropriate, the provision of equipment and technology, along with necessary training and maintenance support, in order to prevent, monitor and counter trafficking in drugs, trafficking in precursors and other drug-related crimes such as trafficking in firearms, illicit financial flows, smuggling of bulk cash and money-laundering;

(h) Enhance the capacity of law enforcement and criminal justice agencies in forensic science in the context of drug investigations, including the quality and capacity of drug analysis laboratories to gather, preserve and present forensic evidence to effectively prosecute drug-related offences through considering, inter alia, the provision of advanced detection equipment, scanners, testing kits, reference samples, forensic laboratories and training, as requested;

(i) Strengthen regional, subregional and international cooperation in criminal matters, as appropriate, including judicial cooperation in the areas of, inter alia, extradition, mutual legal assistance and transfer of proceedings, in accordance with the international drug control conventions and other international legal

instruments and national legislation, and strive to provide appropriate resources to national competent authorities, including through the provision of targeted technical assistance to requesting countries;

(j) Maximize the effectiveness of law enforcement measures against organized criminal groups and individuals involved in drug-related crimes, including by placing appropriate focus within our respective jurisdictions on those responsible for illicit activities of a larger scale or more serious nature;

Addressing links with other forms of organized crime, including money-laundering, corruption and other criminal activities

(k) Respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and money-laundering, and, in some cases, terrorism, including money-laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism, by using an integrated, multidisciplinary approach, such as through promoting and supporting reliable data collection, research and, as appropriate, intelligence- and analysis-sharing to ensure effective policymaking and interventions;

(l) Encourage the use of existing subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms to combat all forms of drug-related crime, wherever committed, including, in some cases, violent crimes related to gangs, including by enhancing international cooperation to successfully counter and dismantle organized criminal groups, including those operating transnationally;

(m) Strengthen national, regional and international measures and, as appropriate, rules and regulations aimed at enhancing operational cooperation to prevent transnational organized criminal networks involved in illicit drug-related activities from trafficking and acquiring firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, explosives and other related material;

(n) Consider ratifying or acceding to relevant international legal instruments, including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[12] the United Nations Convention against Corruption[13] and the international conventions and protocols related to countering terrorism, and call upon States parties to take measures to more effectively implement those international legal instruments;

(o) Continue to foster international cooperation by implementing the provisions against money-laundering contained in all relevant international and multilateral instruments, such as the 1988 Convention, the Organized Crime Convention and the Convention against Corruption and, in accordance with national legislation, the Financial Action Task Force Recommendations on Money Laundering;[14]

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[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[13] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[14] Financial Action Task Force, *International Standards on Combating Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism and Proliferation* (Paris, 2015).

(p) Strengthen and utilize existing and relevant regional, as appropriate, subregional and international networks for the exchange of operational information to prevent and counter money-laundering, illicit financial flows and terrorist financing;

(q) Develop and strengthen, as appropriate, mechanisms of domestic coordination and timely and efficient information-sharing between authorities involved in identifying and countering drug trafficking, diversion of precursors and related money-laundering, integrate financial investigations more thoroughly into interdiction operations to identify individuals and companies involved in such activities, and encourage, in accordance with national legislation, cooperation with the private sector, including financial institutions, designated non-financial businesses and professions, as well as providers of money or value transfer services, to identify suspicious transactions, with a view to further investigating and disrupting the drug trafficking business model;

(r) Enhance national, regional, subregional, interregional and international capacity to prevent and counter money-laundering and illicit financial flows stemming from drug trafficking and related crimes, including, as appropriate, through detection, investigation and prosecution of such activities, with a view to effectively addressing safe havens, and identify and mitigate money-laundering risks linked to new technologies, as well as emerging money-laundering methods and techniques, by using, inter alia, existing United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime technical assistance tools;

(s) Develop and strengthen bilateral, subregional and international mechanisms to share information among competent authorities and promote their cooperation to effectively and in a timely manner identify, trace, freeze, seize and confiscate assets and proceeds of drug-related crime and their disposal, including sharing, in accordance with the 1988 Convention, as well as their return, in appropriate drug-related corruption cases, in the framework of the Convention against Corruption, or, as appropriate, in cases of drug-related crimes involving transnational organized groups, consistent with the Organized Crime Convention; and encourage the timely sharing of operational information among relevant law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies and financial intelligence units;

(t) Promote effective measures capable of addressing the links between drug-related crimes and corruption, as well as obstruction of justice, including through the intimidation of justice officials, as a part of national anti-corruption and drug control strategies;

(u) Improve the availability and quality of statistical information and analysis of illicit drug cultivation, production and manufacturing, drug trafficking, money-laundering and illicit financial flows, including for appropriate reflection in reports of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board, in order to better measure and evaluate the impact of such crimes and to further enhance the effectiveness of criminal justice responses in that regard.

Operational recommendations on cross-cutting issues: drugs and human rights, youth, children, women and communities

4. We reiterate our commitment to respecting, protecting and promoting all human rights, fundamental freedoms and the inherent dignity of all individuals and the rule of law in the development and implementation of drug policies, and we recommend the following measures:

Drugs and human rights, youth, women, children, vulnerable members of society, and communities

(a) Enhance the knowledge of policy-makers and the capacity, as appropriate, of relevant national authorities on various aspects of the world drug problem in order to ensure that national drug policies, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach, fully respect all human rights and fundamental freedoms and protect the health, safety and well-being of individuals, families, vulnerable members of society, communities and society as a whole, and to that end encourage cooperation with and among the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, including those relevant to the above-mentioned issues, and relevant regional and international organizations, as well as with civil society and the private sector, as appropriate;

(b) Ensure non-discriminatory access to health, care and social services in prevention, primary care and treatment programmes, including those offered to persons in prison or pretrial detention, which are to be on a level equal to those available in the community, and ensure that women, including detained women, have access to adequate health services and counselling, including those particularly needed during pregnancy;

(c) Promote effective supervision of drug treatment and rehabilitation facilities by competent domestic authorities to ensure adequate quality of drug treatment and rehabilitation services and to prevent any possible acts of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, in accordance with domestic legislation and applicable international law;

(d) Continue to identify and address protective and risk factors, as well as the conditions that continue to make women and girls vulnerable to exploitation and participation in drug trafficking, including as couriers, with a view to preventing their involvement in drug-related crime;

(e) Promote, in accordance with domestic legislation, effective coordination among the justice, education and law enforcement sectors and social services to ensure that the specific needs, including mental and physical needs, of underage drug offenders and children affected by drug-related crime are appropriately considered, including in criminal justice proceedings where required, including by providing those in need with drug treatment and related support services;

(f) Implement age-appropriate practical measures, tailored to the specific needs of children, youth and other vulnerable members of society, in the legislative, administrative, social, economic, cultural and educational sectors, including measures to provide them with opportunities for healthy and self-sustained lives, in

order to prevent their abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and address their involvement, use and exploitation in the illicit cultivation of crops, production, manufacturing and trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and other forms of drug-related crime, including urban crime, youth and gang-related violence and crime, fulfilling the obligations as States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and taking into account the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency (the Riyadh Guidelines);[15]

(g) Mainstream a gender perspective into and ensure the involvement of women in all stages of the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of drug policies and programmes, develop and disseminate gender-sensitive and age-appropriate measures that take into account the specific needs and circumstances faced by women and girls with regard to the world drug problem and, as States parties, implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[16]

(h) Consider, on a voluntary basis, when furnishing information to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs pursuant to the three international drug control conventions and relevant Commission resolutions, the inclusion of information concerning, inter alia, the promotion of human rights and the health, safety and welfare of all individuals, communities and society in the context of their domestic implementation of these conventions, including recent developments, best practices and challenges;

(i) Ensure that measures to prevent the illicit cultivation of and to eradicate plants containing narcotic and psychotropic substances respect fundamental human rights, take due account of traditional licit uses, where there is historic evidence of such use, and of the protection of the environment, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions, and also take into account, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;[17]

Proportionate and effective policies and responses, as well as legal guarantees and safeguards pertaining to criminal justice proceedings and the justice sector

(j) Encourage the development, adoption and implementation, with due regard to national, constitutional, legal and administrative systems, of alternative or additional measures with regard to conviction or punishment in cases of an appropriate nature, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions and taking into account, as appropriate, relevant United Nations standards and rules, such as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-Custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules);

(k) Consider sharing, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, information, lessons learned, experiences and best practices on the design, implementation and results of national criminal justice policies, including, as appropriate, domestic practices on proportional sentencing, related to the

[15] General Assembly resolution 45/112, annex.

[16] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[17] General Assembly resolution 61/295, annex.

implementation of the three international drug control conventions, including article 3 of the 1988 Convention;

(l) Promote proportionate national sentencing policies, practices and guidelines for drug-related offences whereby the severity of penalties is proportionate to the gravity of offences and whereby both mitigating and aggravating factors are taken into account, including the circumstances enumerated in article 3 of the 1988 Convention and other relevant and applicable international law, and in accordance with national legislation;

(m) Enhance access to treatment of drug use disorders for those incarcerated and promote effective oversight and encourage, as appropriate, self-assessments of confinement facilities, taking into consideration the United Nations standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, including the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),[18] implement, where appropriate, measures aimed at addressing and eliminating prison overcrowding and violence, and provide capacity-building to relevant national authorities;

(n) Encourage the taking into account of the specific needs and possible multiple vulnerabilities of women drug offenders when imprisoned, in line with the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules);[19]

(o) Promote and implement effective criminal justice responses to drug-related crimes to bring perpetrators to justice that ensure legal guarantees and due process safeguards pertaining to criminal justice proceedings, including practical measures to uphold the prohibition of arbitrary arrest and detention and of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and to eliminate impunity, in accordance with relevant and applicable international law and taking into account United Nations standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, and ensure timely access to legal aid and the right to a fair trial.

[18] General Assembly resolution 70/175, annex.
[19] General Assembly resolution 65/229, annex.

Operational recommendations on cross-cutting issues in addressing and countering the world drug problem: evolving reality, trends and existing circumstances, emerging and persistent challenges and threats, including new psychoactive substances, in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments

5. We reiterate our commitment to strengthen our efforts in addressing and countering emerging and persistent challenges and threats of all aspects of the world drug problem, and note the need to effectively respond to the evolving reality, trends and existing circumstances through comprehensive, integrated and balanced drug control policies and programmes that take into account their transnational implications and that are in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments, and to strengthen our international, regional and subregional cooperation, and we recommend the following:

Addressing new psychoactive substances, amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, the diversion of precursors and pre-precursors and the non-medical use and misuse of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

We resolve to strengthen national and international action to address the emerging challenge of new psychoactive substances, including their adverse health consequences, and the evolving threat of amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, and underscore the importance of enhancing information-sharing and early warning networks, developing appropriate national legislative, prevention and treatment models and supporting scientific evidence-based review and scheduling of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful substances, we note the importance of preventing the diversion and misuse of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and precursors while ensuring their availability for legitimate purposes, and we recommend the following measures:

(a) Encourage the development and implementation of, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, comprehensive measures and programmes, as outlined in paragraph 1 of this document, adapt those measures to the risks and challenges posed by the use of new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, and the non-medical use and misuse of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and actively share information on best practices and lessons learned with regard to national health-related experiences;

(b) Enhance the capacity of law enforcement agencies to detect and identify new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, and promote cross-border cooperation and information-sharing to prevent their abuse and diversion, including through the use of existing International Narcotics Control Board and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime tools and projects;

(c) Establish and strengthen partnerships and information exchange with industries, in particular with chemical and pharmaceutical industries and other relevant private sector entities, and encourage the use of the *Guidelines for a*

Voluntary Code of Practice for the Chemical Industry, issued by the International Narcotics Control Board, and the Board's model memorandum of understanding between governments and private sector partners, as and where appropriate, bearing in mind the important role these industries can play in addressing and countering the world drug problem;

New psychoactive substances

(d) Continue to identify and monitor trends in the composition, production, prevalence and distribution of new psychoactive substances, as well as patterns of use and adverse consequences, and assess the risks to health and safety of individuals and society as a whole and the potential uses of new psychoactive substances for medical and scientific purposes, and on that basis to develop and strengthen domestic and national legislative, regulatory, administrative and operational responses and practices by domestic and national legislative, law enforcement, judiciary, social and welfare, educational and health authorities;

(e) Commit to implementing timely, scientific evidence-based control or regulatory measures within national legislative and administrative systems to tackle and manage the challenge of new psychoactive substances, and consider the use of interim steps while substances are under review, such as provisional measures of control, or make public health announcements, as well as share information and expertise on those measures;

(f) Share relevant information with, as appropriate, and strengthen the capacity of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board and other relevant international and regional organizations to prioritize the review of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful new psychoactive substances and to facilitate informed scheduling decisions by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

(g) Actively participate in early warning networks and promote the use of relevant surveillance lists and voluntary controls and the sharing of information through the International Narcotics Control Board, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization, within their respective mandates, and enhance bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation in the identification and reporting of new psychoactive substances and incidents involving such substances and, to that end, strengthen the use of national, regional and international established reporting and information exchange systems, such as, where appropriate, the early warning advisory on new psychoactive substances and the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Project Ion of the International Narcotics Control Board;

(h) Enhance the capacity and effectiveness of national laboratories and promote national and regional cooperation among them, as appropriate, for the detection and identification of new psychoactive substances, including through the use of existing United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime reference standards and assistance activities;

(i) Strengthen domestic information-sharing and promote information exchange at the regional and international levels on effective prevention and treatment and related legislative measures in order to support the development of

effective, scientific evidence-based responses to the emerging challenge of new psychoactive substances with regard to their adverse social and health consequences;

Amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine

(j) Support existing research, collection and scientific analysis of data related to amphetamine-type stimulants through the global SMART programme and relevant International Narcotics Control Board tools, such as Project Prism, and strengthen cooperation at all levels in tackling amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine;

(k) Promote the use, as appropriate, of relevant existing programmes, mechanisms and coordinated operations at all levels and continue the development and sharing of best practices and lessons learned among practitioners with regard to a balanced and integrated approach to the evolving threat of amphetamine-type stimulants;

Precursors and pre-precursors

(l) Strengthen national, regional and international monitoring of chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and new psychoactive substances, with a view to more effectively preventing the diversion of and trafficking in those chemicals, while ensuring that the legitimate trade in and use of those chemicals are not adversely affected, including by using national, subregional and international reporting systems and International Narcotics Control Board tools such as Project Prism, the Precursors Incident Communication System and Pre-Export Notification Online (PEN Online);

(m) Take appropriate measures to address the diversion and illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in as well as misuse of precursors under international control and to tackle the misuse of pre-precursors and substitute or alternative precursors for illicit drug manufacturing, and enhance voluntary efforts, including voluntary codes of conduct in cooperation with relevant industries and commerce at the national, regional and international levels, including through use of relevant International Narcotics Control Board tools;

Non-medical use and misuse of pharmaceuticals

(n) Enhance the sharing of information on the misuse of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and the quality and consistency of reported data, including through the annual report questionnaire of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(o) Develop and implement countermeasures and supportive public health, education and socioeconomic strategies to effectively address and counter the non-medical use and misuse of pharmaceuticals that contain narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, while ensuring their availability for legitimate purposes, and promote national subregional, regional and international cooperation to prevent their diversion, trafficking and abuse, including through the use of existing World Health Organization, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and International Narcotics Control Board projects and tools;

Use of the Internet in relation to drug-related activities

(p) Support research, data collection, analysis of evidence and sharing of information and strengthen law enforcement, criminal justice and legal responses, as well as international cooperation, to prevent and counter drug-related criminal activities using the Internet, consistent with relevant and applicable law;

(q) Increase the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building at all levels to Member States, upon request, to prevent and counter the use of technologies, including the Internet, by drug trafficking networks and transnational criminal organizations, to facilitate drug-related activities;

(r) Enhance the capacity of national authorities, in particular law enforcement authorities, to preserve and analyse electronic evidence related to illicit activities, including drug trafficking and money-laundering, and to monitor sales of illicit drugs using the Internet;

(s) Encourage the use of the *Guidelines for Governments on Preventing the Illegal Sale of Internationally Controlled Substances through the Internet*,[20] as appropriate;

(t) Support measures on the use of the Internet for prevention purposes, including appropriate counselling and information provision, develop, implement and promote, in accordance with national legislation, prevention strategies, programmes and measures, including via social media and other social networks, aimed at, inter alia, protecting children and young people from the abuse of controlled substances and new psychoactive substances and from involvement in their illicit sale and purchase via the Internet, and enhance cooperation at all levels in that regard;

Evolving reality, trends and existing circumstances, emerging and persistent challenges and threats

(u) Promote, as appropriate, the use and analysis of relevant, reliable and objective data generated by national and regional monitoring and evaluation to improve the implementation of comprehensive, integrated and balanced national drug control strategies, policies and programmes, in conformity with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments, and encourage the sharing of best practices and lessons learned, including through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and other relevant regional and international organizations, within their mandates, to, inter alia, better understand both their domestic and transnational implications;

(v) Intensify efforts in the context of long-term and sustainable development programmes to address the most pressing drug-related socioeconomic factors, including unemployment and social marginalization, conducive to their subsequent exploitation by criminal organizations involved in drug-related crime;

(w) Encourage the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in cooperation with relevant United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, to consider, as appropriate, reviewing existing guidelines and, where required, developing new ones on the various aspects of the world drug problem, with a view to enhancing the

[20] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.09.XI.6.

capacity of relevant national authorities and strengthening international and inter-agency cooperation;

(x) Promote exchange of information to better understand the extent of adverse impacts, including the health, social and economic and safety impacts, of drug trafficking in small quantities in order to develop, where appropriate effective responses to counter microtrafficking;

(y) Call upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Narcotics Control Board, the World Health Organization and other United Nations entities with pertinent technical and operational expertise, within their mandates, to continue to provide, upon request, advice and assistance to States that are reviewing and updating their drug policies, in compliance with the international drug control conventions, taking into account their national priorities and needs through, among others, the promotion of exchange of information and best practices on scientific evidence-based policies adopted by States.

Operational recommendations on strengthening international cooperation based on the principle of common and shared responsibility

6. We reiterate our commitment to supporting our efforts at all levels, based on common and shared responsibility, to effectively address and counter the world drug problem and to enhance international cooperation and, to that end, we recommend the following measures:

(a) Strengthen specialized, targeted, effective and sustainable technical assistance, including, where appropriate, adequate financial assistance, training, capacity-building, equipment and technological know-how, to requesting countries, including transit countries, through and in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as well as the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, to assist Member States to effectively address the health, socioeconomic, human rights, justice and law enforcement aspects of the world drug problem;

(b) Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation among Member States, in cooperation with the international development community and other key stakeholders, in order to effectively address and counter the world drug problem;

(c) Strengthen, including through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and, as appropriate, its subsidiary bodies, the regular exchange of information, good practices and lessons learned among national practitioners from different fields and at all levels to effectively implement an integrated and balanced approach to the world drug problem and its various aspects and consider additional measures to further facilitate meaningful discussion among those practitioners;

(d) Encourage the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to contribute to the global follow-up and support the thematic review of progress on the Sustainable

Development Goals,[21] within its mandates, bearing in mind the integrated nature of the Goals as well as the interlinkages between them, and make that information available to the high-level political forum through the appropriate institutional framework, taking into account General Assembly resolution 70/1;

(e) Encourage the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to further increase cooperation and collaboration with all relevant United Nations entities and international financial institutions, within their respective mandates, when assisting Member States in designing and implementing comprehensive, integrated and balanced national drug strategies, policies and programmes.

Operational recommendations on alternative development; regional, interregional and international cooperation on development-oriented balanced drug control policy; addressing socioeconomic issues

7. We reiterate our commitment to addressing drug-related socioeconomic issues related to the illicit cultivation of narcotic plants and the illicit manufacture and production and trafficking of drugs through the implementation of long-term, comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented and balanced drug control policies and programmes, including alternative development and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, which are part of sustainable crop control strategies, and we recommend the following measures:

Socioeconomic issues and alternative development

(a) Target the illicit cultivation of crops used for the illicit production and manufacture of drugs and address related factors by implementing comprehensive strategies aimed at alleviating poverty and strengthening the rule of law, accountable, effective and inclusive institutions and public services and institutional frameworks, as appropriate, and by promoting sustainable development aimed at enhancing the welfare of the affected and vulnerable population through licit alternatives;

(b) Encourage the promotion of inclusive economic growth and support initiatives that contribute to poverty eradication and the sustainability of social and economic development, develop measures for rural development, improving infrastructure and social inclusion and protection, addressing the consequences of illicit crop cultivation and the manufacture and production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances on the environment, with the incorporation and participation of local communities, and consider taking voluntary measures to promote products stemming from alternative development, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, to gain access to markets, consistent with applicable multilateral trade rules and with national and international law, within the framework of comprehensive and balanced drug control strategies;

(c) Express concern that illicit cultivation of crops and illicit manufacture, distribution and trafficking remain serious challenges in addressing and countering

[21] Contained in General Assembly resolution 70/1.

the world drug problem, and recognize the need for strengthening sustainable crop control strategies that may include, inter alia, alternative development, eradication and law enforcement measures, for the purpose of preventing and reducing significantly and measurably the illicit cultivation of crops, and the need for intensifying joint efforts at national, regional and international levels in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of appropriate preventive tools and measures, enhanced and better coordinated financial and technical assistance and action-oriented programmes, in order to tackle those challenges;

(d) Consider elaborating and implementing comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, that support sustainable crop control strategies to prevent and significantly, durably and measurably reduce illicit crop cultivation and other illicit drug-related activities, ensuring the empowerment, ownership and responsibility of affected local communities, including farmers and their cooperatives, by taking into account the vulnerabilities and specific needs of communities affected by or at risk of illicit cultivation, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant international organizations, bearing in mind national and regional development policies and action plans, with a view to contributing to the building of peaceful, inclusive and just societies, consistent with the Sustainable Development Goals and in compliance with relevant and applicable international and national law;

(e) Strengthen subregional, regional and international cooperation to support comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, as an essential part of successful prevention and crop control strategies to increase the positive outcome of such programmes, especially in the areas affected by and at risk of illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, taking into account the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development;[22]

(f) Strengthen regional and international cooperation to support sustainable alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, in close collaboration with all relevant stakeholders at the local, national and international levels, and to develop and share best practices towards implementing the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, taking into account all the lessons learned and good practices, in particular by countries with extensive expertise in alternative development, and take note, inter alia, of the Second International Conference on Alternative Development;

(g) Promote research by States, including through cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant United Nations entities and international and regional organizations, academic institutions and civil society, to better understand factors contributing to illicit crop cultivation, taking into account local and regional specificities, and to improve impact assessment of alternative development programmes, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, with a view to increasing the effectiveness of these programmes,

[22] General Assembly resolution 68/196, annex.

including through the use of relevant human development indicators, criteria related to environmental sustainability and other measurements in line with the Sustainable Development Goals;

Technical and financial cooperation for comprehensive and balanced development-oriented drug policies and viable economic alternatives

(h) Consider strengthening a development perspective as part of comprehensive, integrated and balanced national drug policies and programmes so as to tackle the related causes and consequences of illicit cultivation, manufacture, production of and trafficking in drugs by, inter alia, addressing risk factors affecting individuals, communities and society, which may include a lack of services, infrastructure needs, drug-related violence, exclusion, marginalization and social disintegration, in order to contribute to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies;

(i) Urge relevant international financial institutions, United Nations entities, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, as appropriate, to consider increasing their support, including through long-term and flexible funding, for the implementation of comprehensive and balanced development-oriented drug control programmes and viable economic alternatives, in particular alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, based on identified needs and national priorities, for areas and populations affected by or vulnerable to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, with a view to its prevention, reduction and elimination, and encourage States to the extent possible to stay strongly committed to financing such programmes;

(j) Encourage the development of viable economic alternatives, particularly for communities affected by or at risk of illicit cultivation of drug crops and other illicit drug-related activities in urban and rural areas, including through comprehensive alternative development programmes, and to this end consider development-oriented interventions, while ensuring that both men and women benefit equally from them, including through job opportunities, improved infrastructure and basic public services and, as appropriate, access and legal titles to land for farmers and local communities, which will also contribute to preventing, reducing or eliminating illicit cultivation and other drug-related activities;

(k) Consider the development of sustainable urban development initiatives for those affected by illicit drug-related activities to foster public participation in crime prevention, community cohesion, protection and safety and to stimulate innovation, entrepreneurship and employment;

(l) Promote partnerships and innovative cooperation initiatives with the private sector, civil society and international financial institutions to create conditions more conducive to productive investments targeted at job creation in areas and among communities affected by or at risk of illicit drug cultivation, production, manufacturing, trafficking and other illicit drug-related activities in order to prevent, reduce or eliminate them, and share best practices, lessons learned, expertise and skills in this regard.

8. We express appreciation for the inclusive, transparent and open-ended preparatory process for the special session, led by the Commission on Narcotic

Drugs with the support, guidance and involvement of the President of the General Assembly, and for all contributions to this preparatory process.

9. We resolve to take the necessary steps to implement the above-listed operational recommendations, in close partnership with the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations and civil society, and to share with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters, timely information on progress made in the implementation of these recommendations.

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General Assembly

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Thirtieth special session
Agenda item 3 (b)
Credentials of representatives to the special session of the General Assembly

Report of the Credentials Committee

Chair: Mr. Jan **Kickert** (Austria)

1. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 19 April 2016, the General Assembly, in accordance with rule 28 of its rules of procedure, appointed a Credentials Committee for its thirtieth special session consisting of the following Member States: Argentina, Austria, Barbados, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, South Africa and the United States of America.

2. The Credentials Committee held one meeting, on 20 April 2016.

3. The Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations, Jan Kickert, was unanimously elected Chair.

4. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretary-General dated 19 April 2016 concerning the credentials of representatives of Member States to the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly.

5. As indicated in paragraph 1 of the memorandum, formal credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister of Foreign Affairs as required by rule 27 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly had been submitted by the following 55 Member States in respect of their representatives to the thirtieth special session of the Assembly: Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Chile, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Namibia, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Portugal, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United States of America, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

6. As indicated in paragraph 2 of the memorandum, information concerning the appointment of their representatives to the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly had been communicated to the Secretary-General, by means of a facsimile communication from the Head of State or Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs, or by means of a letter or note verbale from the Permanent Mission

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concerned, by the following 84 Member States: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Maldives, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Vanuatu.

7. As indicated in paragraph 3 of the memorandum, the following 31 Member States had not communicated to the Secretary-General information regarding their representatives to the thirtieth special session, but had previously expressly empowered their permanent representatives to represent their respective States in all organs of the United Nations without limitation as to the session: Belize, Benin, Central African Republic, Dominica, Fiji, Gambia, Guinea, Guyana, Jordan, Kiribati, Lesotho, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mozambique, Nauru, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Sudan, Tonga, Uganda, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Zimbabwe.

8. The following 23 Member States have not submitted credentials or information to the Secretary-General falling within the above categories: Belarus, Brazil, Burundi, Chad, Comoros, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu and Zambia.

9. The Chair recommended that the Committee should accept the credentials of the representatives of all the Member States mentioned in the memorandum by the Secretary-General, on the understanding that formal credentials for the representatives of the Member States referred to in paragraphs 6 to 8 of the present report would be communicated to the Secretary-General as soon as possible.

10. The Chair proposed the following draft resolution for adoption by the Committee:

The Credentials Committee,

Having examined the credentials of the representatives to the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly of the Member States referred to in the memorandum of the Secretary-General dated 19 April 2016,

Accepts the credentials of the representatives of the Member States concerned.

11. The draft resolution proposed by the Chair was adopted without a vote.

12. The Chair then proposed that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled "Credentials of representatives to the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly" (see para. 14). The proposal was adopted without a vote.

13. In the light of the foregoing, the present report is submitted to the General Assembly.

Recommendation of the Credentials Committee

14. The Credentials Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Credentials of representatives to the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee[1] and the recommendation contained therein,

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.[1]

[1] A/S-30/5.